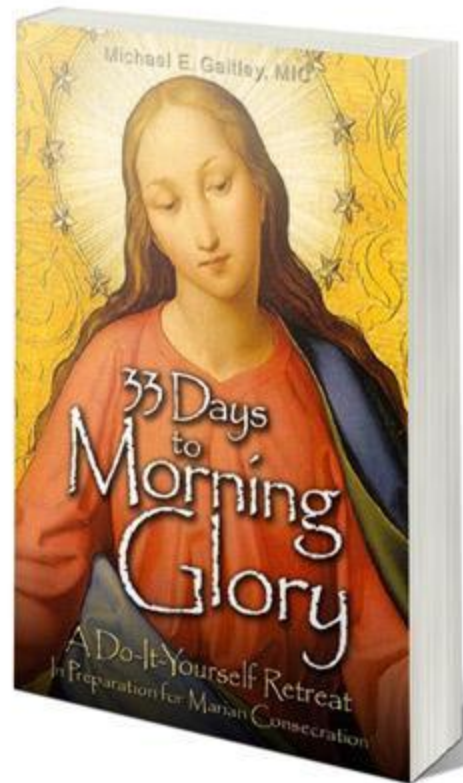


# Why a total consecration and why through Mary?

From Father Michael E. Gaitley's book, *33 Days to Morning Glory*: "Jesus wants to include all of us in his work of salvation. He wants us all to labor in his Father's vineyard in one way or another. Jesus fully revealed Mary's special task from the Cross and said to Mary as she stood with the Apostle, John, "Woman, behold, your son and to John, "Behold, your Mother." "So it is Mary's great God-given task, in union with and by the power of the Holy Spirit, to form every human being into "another Christ", that is, to unite everyone to the Body of Christ and form each person into a fully mature member of this Body." "Yes, if we want to become more fully Christ, then we need to belong more fully to Mary."



## What do the Marian experts say?

From **Saint Louis Marie De Monfort's** book, *The Secret of Mary*: "It all comes down to this, then, that you should find an easy means for obtaining from God the grace necessary to make you holy; and this means I wish to make known to you. Now I say that to find this grace of God, *we must find Mary..*"

From **Saint Maximilian Kolbe**, as stated in *33 Days to Morning Glory*: "Who are you, O Immaculate Conception?" "What type of union is this between the Holy

Spirit and Mary? It is above all an interior union, a union of her essence with the “essence” of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit dwells in her, lives in her. He himself is uncreated Love in her, the Love of the Father and the Son, the Love by which God loves himself, the very Love of the Most Holy Trinity. He is a fruitful Love, a “Conception”. In a much more precise, more interior, more essential manner, the Holy Spirit lives in the soul of the Immaculata, in the depths of her very being. He makes her fruitful, from the very first instant of her existence, all during her life, and for all eternity”.

From **Saint Teresa of Calcutta**, as stated in *33 Days to Morning Glory*: “Our Lady’s role is to bring you face to face with the love in the Heart of Jesus Crucified.” Part of the reason Mother Teresa took her consecration so seriously has to do with her Albanian roots. “Besa” in Albanian culture means “faith” but more completely, it means “to keep one’s promise.” Mother Teresa described her consecration as a covenant. “So, the two bookends of this covenant with Mary are Mother Teresa’s two prayers, “Lend me your heart” and “Keep me in your most pure heart”.

From **Saint John Paul II**, as stated in *33 Days to Morning Glory*: St. John Paul II, “The most Marian Pope,” as he has been called, profoundly deepened the Church’s understanding of Marian consecration. Building on the work of the Second Vatican Council, he provides us with a thoroughly biblical treatment of Marian consecration, which he calls “entrustment”, and homes in on the idea that it is Mary’s role to lead us into the mystery of Christ’s redeeming love and self-consecration to the Father. Who was the first person to entrust himself to Mary? It wasn’t Saint Louis de Montfort. It was God the Father. John Paul II explains, “For it must be recognized that before anyone else, it was God himself, the Eternal Father, who entrusted himself to the Virgin of Nazareth, giving her his own Son in the mystery of the Incarnation.

